

Thank you to the committee for your consideration of HB-1146. I am here to support this bill. My name is Dr. Kevin Banks and I am a board certified pediatric dentist practicing in Frederick, MD. At our office, we see pediatric patients in office and in the operating room at Holy Cross Germantown and Shady Grove Adventist hospitals. The magnitude of this bill is monumental for the continued access to care for our most vulnerable patients in our communities. The hospitals, anesthesiologists and their support staff really want to help these patients but find it challenging in an environment where their costs are skyrocketing. This bill helps to properly compensate these exceptional providers for their time. Otherwise, it is hard for them to provide the care our patients deserve with the sheer numbers of patients and the low reimbursement rates which have not been adjusted for over a decade. I thank you again for your time and consideration. For these reasons, I am hoping for a favorable review for HB-1146.